



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

FABRY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Fabry disease is a progressive, hereditary disorder caused by deficient activity of the lysosomal enzyme alpha-galactosidase A that results in a buildup of lipids in the body's cells; and
- WHEREAS: Fabry disease is linked to a defect on the X chromosome that causes children and adults to suffer symptoms that diminish their quality of life; and
- WHEREAS: Fabry disease is considered a rare condition and affects approximately 1 in 40,000 to 60,000 males in the U.S. A higher number of females may be affected, but with a wider variety of symptoms than males; and
- WHEREAS: Symptoms of Fabry disease may include episodes of pain, a decreased ability to sweat, ringing in the ears, or hearing loss, among others. More serious symptoms of Fabry disease such as kidney failure, heart attack, or stroke may lead to premature death; and
- WHEREAS: Fabry disease is severely underdiagnosed. As a result, individuals affected by the disorder may undergo irreversible organ damage before receiving proper treatment; and
- WHEREAS: Unlike other rare genetic disorders, an FDA-approved treatment is available for Fabry disease that may improve and lengthen the lives of those affected; and
- WHEREAS: Newborn screening programs reveal a larger number of infants are born with Fabry disease than historical estimates indicate; and
- WHEREAS: Fabry Disease Awareness Month provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the symptoms of Fabry disease and the GLA gene tests available to assess the presence of the disorder; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as FABRY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and encourage citizens to learn about Fabry disease.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 13th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF